

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re the Application of

Confirmation No.: 8328

Ola OLOFSSON et al

Group Art Unit: 3679

Serial No.: 10/754,564

Examiner: V. MacArthur

Filed: January 12, 2004

For: GUIDING MEANS AT A JOINT

**REPLY BRIEF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

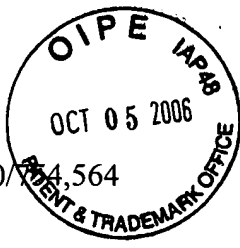
**Withdrawal of Rejection of Claim 18 Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph**

Appellants appreciate the Examiner's withdrawal of the rejection of claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and understand that no additional response to this issue is necessary.

**The Prior Art Rejections**

In rejecting claims 14, 15 and 17-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Parasin (U.S. Patent 5,165,816) in view of Finkell (U.S. Patent 5,797,237), the Examiner has made findings of fact not supported by the cited references.

For example, in order to provide the suggestion of motivation to combine Parasin and Finkell, the Examiner states (page 4, lines 4-6) "one of ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized that non-abutting floor boards present a greater trip hazard than do abutting floor boards, since abutting boards present no space for pedestrian shoes to catch."



Firstly, there is no teaching in any of the cited art, nor has the Examiner cited to any other teaching that would tend to show that “one of ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized that non-abutting floor boards present a greater trip hazard . . . .”

Secondly, if, indeed, the Parasin floor boards are separated by a space 46 at their upper surface of so great a dimension as to create a tripping hazard for pedestrians, then the purposeful provision of such a space by Parasin would be essential to his invention and it would not have been obvious to eliminate such a large space. For example, Parasin, at column 3, lines 28-32, states “in addition, tongue 12 is preferably longer than groove 14 is deep, such that when tongue tip 18 engages groove base 34, spaces 46 are created between joined panel edges 27 and 28 to allow for further expansion and contraction of the joint.” If Parasin found it necessary to provide such large spaces 46 of a dimension to create a tripping hazard, then such spaces were clearly provided to accommodate expansion and contraction of the joint, which could not be eliminated without deleteriously affecting the purpose and operation of Parasin.

The Examiner continues (at page 4, lines 6-8) that “it is further readily apparent that gaps between adjacent floor boards which would catch/trap dirt making such flooring harder to clean, which is undesirable.” However, this is contrary to the teachings of Parasin which clearly recognizes that “alternatively, if glue is not used, space 42 will accommodate debris and dirt which may be pushed forward by the penetrating tongue” (column 3, lines 20-22) and, again, is a factor which Parasin recognized and did not seek to cure because it was necessary for him to have the spaces 46 in order to allow for expansion and contraction of the joint.

On the other hand, appellants have created a glue joint, which at the joint between the separate boards becomes practically invisible (See, specification, second full paragraph on page 1). In order to achieve such a tight joint, it is essential that glue be used in excess and too small a clearance will cause a hydraulic resistance (caused by the glue captured inside the groove during the joining) which will cause a random discrepancy in the levels between adjacent floor boards. Id. Appellants solved this problem by abutting the upper surfaces of the adjacent floor boards while, at the same time, providing a glue cavity in which glue is disposed in the claimed invention. See, e.g., independent claim 14.

Therefore, it would not have been obvious to make a glue joint of the type of Parasin by abutting the upper surfaces of the boards even if one skilled in the art viewed Parasin in combination with Finkell.

Finkell is directed to a different type of joint, i.e., a non-glue joint, where there is no hydraulic pressure ever caused as Finkell is designed to be used in the absence of glue. Nor is there any requirement for a cavity containing glue to be provided in Finkell. This is clear throughout the disclosure of Finkell (for example, at column 2, lines 8-11) which states “still another object of the present invention is to provide a flooring system having flooring members which can be snapped together during installation, without the use of glue, adhesives, nails, screws, or other such fastening means” (emphasis added).

Finkell states at column 2, lines 17-20, “these mating side portions allow the flooring members to be snapped together in an interlocking relationship, without the use of glue, staples, nails or other fastening means” (emphasis added). At column 3, lines 1-3, patentee continues “the present invention

allows for ready-made, water sealed edges, since a porous, glue-receiving surface is not required at the edge portions of the elongated members” (emphasis added).

Moreover, Finkell’s flooring system also provides for, not only joining, but disassembly and removal. See, column 2, lines 1-3, “another object of the present invention is to provide a flooring system which is relatively easy to install and to remove” (emphasis added). See, also, column 2, lines 37-41, “if there is a requirement to remove the flooring members, this can be done relatively easily by simply pulling upwardly along the joints between adjacent flooring members, which will then cause the flooring members to become unsnapped from one another” (emphasis added).

Thus, to one of ordinary skill in the art, the Parasin glue joint and the Finkell glue-free joint represent completely different types of flooring systems and the combination would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art as alleged by the Examiner.

Although the Examiner tries to allege that appellant’s arguments amount to “an argument of bodily incorporation for which Patent Office policy is very clear,” page 9 of the Examiner’s Answer, lines 3-6 from the bottom of the page, it is clear from the foregoing discussion that the purposes and objects of each of Parasin and Finkell are so radically different from one another that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have found it obvious to make the combination proposed by the Examiner in the absence of appellant’s own disclosure used as a guide. For example, if the space 46 was bounded or closed by abutting upper surfaces of the board, when would the hydraulic pressure be released. Appellants provide cavities, vents, holes and otherwise directing the hydraulic pressure away from the upper surface, e.g., See, claims 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23. Moreover, appellants also provide

guiding wedges (claim 17) such that the hydraulic pressure will not displace the panels. None of these features are addressed by the proposed combination of Parasin and Finkell.

Lastly, the Examiner's allegation that Finkell discloses gaps (page 10, lines 5-8 of the Answer) is simply unsupported by the cited Finkell reference. The Examiner's reference to column 6, lines 61-65 of Finkell is simply misplaced and misunderstood.

Prior to Finkell, early glue-free flooring locking systems required a space between the panels members in order to provide for assembly of the members.

Contrary to such systems, Finkell actually deforms his panels as shown in Fig. 3b (described beginning at column 4, line 59, *et seq.*) in which ridge 46 "flexes slightly upwardly, and ridge 46 rides slightly upwardly on surface 48 of tongue 30, which is preferably slightly inclined upwardly and as the extreme end 32 of tongue approaches vertical surface 50 of channel 28, snaps into place within groove 34 of male edge B. Once ridge 46 snaps downwardly into place into groove 34, the upper surface 64 of edge A, which had flexed upwardly as ridge 46 rode upwardly upon surface 48, reassumes a horizontal disposition, as shown in Fig. 2." Thus, Finkell's comments as noted by the Examiner at column 6, lines 61-65, are directed to improvements over other glue-free joints that have a space between the panels and not to glue joints as in Parasin. Thus, despite the totality of the teachings of Parasin and Finkell, and the knowledge of those of ordinary skill in the art, appellants submit that the Examiner still has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness for the claimed invention in view of Parasin and Finkell.

Thus, none of claims 14, 15 and 17-23 stand properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Parasin in view of Finkell.

Moreover, the Examiner has completely distorted the claim terms with regard to claims 18-22 regarding the term “hole” and “gap.” As appellants stressed in the Amendment After Final Rejection (page 5, beginning at the second full paragraph and in combination with mark-up drawing Figs. 7-8), appellants pointed out that a “gap” and a “hole” are not only different elements in the claimed invention, but are understood to be different elements in ordinary dictionary meaning. Consistent with the terms as they are ordinarily used in this art, note, for example, that 42, 44 and 46 of Parasin are defined by patentee as “space” or “spaces” between floorboards 10 and 11. The Examiner refers to these spaces as a “gap”; See, for example, the last line on page 3, the fourth line from the bottom of page 4, seventh line from the bottom on page 5, etc. On the contrary, a hole is defined as “an opening through anything; an aperture; a hollow place in a solid body or mass; a cavity”; See, the American College Dictionary, Random House, New York, last copyright 1953, page 276-277 (copy attached to the Evidence Appendix herein). Thus, elements 42, 44 and 46 of Parasin cannot be at one at the same time “spaces” or gaps and, also, a “hole.” Accordingly, the Examiner has no evidence to support the claim limitations of claims 18-22. Because the spaces 42, 44 and 46 are not a hole, they also are not a “vent through one of said boards,” as claimed in dependent claims 21 and 22 but, rather, spaces between adjacent board not through a board.. Thus, notwithstanding the Examiner’s characterization of Parasin teachings as disclosing a “hole” (See, page 7, lines 4-12 of the Answer) in connection with claims 19, 20, 21, and 22 there is clearly an absence of a “hole” in the Parasin teachings. Thus, the Examiner’s rejections of claims 18-22 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over the combination of Parasin and Finkell fail to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness even if the proposed combination

were made by one of ordinary skill in the art since the proposed combinations still would not teach the limitations of the claimed invention.

Regarding independent claim 17, appellants note that the same deficiencies of Parasin and Finkell noted above with regard to providing a first and second equalizing cavity and having first and second boards having upper surfaces in which the upper surfaces of the first and second boards abut as in claim 14 exist with regard to independent claim 17. In addition, independent claim 17 adds the additional limitation that “the tongue comprises at least one guiding wedge on an upper surface or a lower surface thereof, whereby the at least one guiding wedge contacts an inner surface of the groove.” Although the Examiner points to elements “top 17” and “bottom 17” (page 11, middle paragraph of the Answer), the Examiner did not cite to any part of the written description of Parasin to teach that this section is either a “wedge” or a “guiding wedge” as claimed. Rather, the Examiner merely cites a dictionary definition in that elements “top 17” and “bottom 17” are guiding wedges, which contact the inner surface of the groove 32, 35, 37. However, there is absolutely no disclosure in either the drawings or the text of Parasin that shows that the tongue 18 contacts anything other than surface 34 at the bottom of the groove. This is especially true insofar as Parasin teaches that “tongue 12 is perfectly longer than groove 14 is deep, such that when tongue tip 18 engages groove base 34 . . .”; See, column 3, lines 28-32. Thus, although element “top 17” and “bottom 17” maybe “wedge shaped,” they do not satisfy the function of the claimed structure, i.e., “guiding wedge,” and the further structure wherein the “at least one guiding wedge contacts an inner surface of the groove” is not shown or disclosed in Parasin and there is especially no teaching that “top 17” or “bottom 17” contacts surface 32. Accordingly, there is

no disclosure in Parasin, combined with Finkell, which would establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness for the claimed invention.

Regarding claim 23, the claim contains the limitation that mating a groove of a first board with a tongue of a second board where glue has already been disposed on at least one of said tongue and groove, specifically includes the step of “directing said glue away from said upper surface and toward the lower surface of said boards.” Parasin contains no such teaching. Although the Examiner cites to column 3, lines 15-20 of Parasin, there is no teaching in that section of Parasin, or anywhere else in the combination of Parasin and Finkell that shows that the glue is “squeezed out from between surfaces 18 and 34 to flow or be directed into gaps 42, 46, 44 . . .”, as quoted by the Examiner in the first two lines of page 13 of the Answer. All that is said in the teaching of Parasin that “the spaces 42 between the tongue head and the groove champered surfaces define a gap to accommodate excess glue”; column 3, lines 18-20. There is absolutely no teaching that any glue flows through spaces 42, 44 and into 46 as argued by the Examiner but, rather, that the glue is merely accommodated in space 42. There is no indication that there is any flow of the glue at all and the Examiner’s entire rejection is premised on “wishful thinking,” not on a teaching found in the cited prior art. For the foregoing reasons, the combination of Parasin and Finkell also fail to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness for the manipulative steps required in independent claim 23.

It is abundantly clear that the Examiner has not met any of the claim limitations noted above which are lacking in the proposed combination of Parasin and Finkell. Rather than rely on the teachings of the references which he has cited in the body of the rejection, the rejection largely paraphrases the claimed limitations and attributes such paraphrased portions to the references, whereas the references



themselves do not contain the teaching to meet the claimed limitations. For the foregoing reasons, it is readily apparent that none of the rejections set forth by the Examiner can be sustained and reversal of the rejections by the Board of Appeals is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: October 5, 2006

Evidence Exhibit

The American College Dictionary  
Random House - New York  
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Pages 576-577

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The textbook edition of this dictionary is published by Harper & Brothers.

Manufactured in the United States

**Hofmann** (hɒf'mæn; Pol. hɒf'män), n. Josef (jɒ'zəf), born 1876, U.S. pianist and composer, born in Poland.

**hog** (hɒg, hɒg), n., v., hogged, hogging. —n. 1. an omnivorous nonruminant mammal of the family Suidae, suborder Artiodactyla, and order Ungulata, a pig, sow, or boar; a swine. 2. a domesticated swine weighing more than 120 pounds, raised for market. 3. Colloq. a selfish, gluttonous, or filthy person. —v.t. 4. Slang. to appropriate selfishly; take more than one's share of. 5. to arch (the back) upward like that of a hog. 6. to cut (a horse's mane) short. —v.i. 7. to droop at both ends, as a ship. [ME; OE hogg, t. OBritish; cf. Welsh hŵch sow] —hog/like', adj.

**hog-an** (hɒ'gɒn), n. a Navaho Indian dwelling, a structure of posts and branches covered with earth.

**Hogarth** (hɒ'gɑːrθ), n. William, 1697-1764, British painter and engraver. —Hogarthian, adj.

**hog-back** (hɒg'bæk/, hɒg-/), n. Geol. a long, sharply crested ridge, generally formed of steeply inclined strata that are especially resistant to erosion.

**hog cholera**, a specific, acute, highly fatal, highly contagious disease of swine caused by a filterable virus.

**hog-fish** (hɒg'fɪʃ/, hɒg-/), n., pl. -fishes, (esp. collectively) -fish, any of various fishes, as *Lachnolaimus maximus*, a labroid food fish of the Florida coast and the West Indies, or *Percina caprodes*, a darter of American lakes and streams, or *Orthopristis chrysopterus*, one of the grunts of the southern coasts of the U.S.

**Hogg** (hɒg), n. James, ("the Elrick Shepherd") 1770-1835, Scottish poet.

**hog-gish** (hɒg'ɪʃ/, hɒg'ɪʃ), adj. 1. like or befitting a hog. 2. selfish; gluttonous; filthy. —hog/gish-ly, adv. —hog/gish-ness, n.

**hog-nose snake** (hɒg'nɔːz/, hɒg-/), any of the harmless American snakes constituting the genus *Heterodon*, notable for their hoglike snouts and their curious actions and contortions when disturbed.

**hog-nut** (hɒg'nʌt/, hɒg-/), n. 1. the nut of the brown hickory, *Carya glabra*. 2. the tree itself. 3. the pignut. 4. the earthnut of Europe, *Conopodium denudatum*.

**hog peanut**, a twining fabaceous plant, *Amphicarpa braceata*, with pods which ripen in or on the ground.

**hogs-head** (hɒgz'hɛd/, hɒgz-/), n. 1. a large cask of varying capacities depending on locality or purpose, esp. one containing from 63 to 140 gallons. 2. a varying unit of liquid measure, esp. one containing 63 wine gallons. [ME hoggeshead, lit., hog's head; unexplained]

**hog-tie** (hɒg'ti/, hɒg-/), v.t., -tied, -tying. to tie as a hog is tied, with all four feet together.

**Hogue** (ɒg), n. La (la). See La Hogue.

**hog-wash** (hɒg'wɒʃ/, -wɒʃ/, hɒg-/), n. 1. refuse given to hogs; swill. 2. any worthless stuff.

**Hoh-en-lin-den** (hɒ'ən'lɪn'dən), n. a village in S Germany, in Bavaria, near Munich; French victory over the Austrians, 1800.

**Hohen-lo-he** (hɒ'ən'lɔːə), n. a German princely family, fl. 12-19th centuries.

**Hohen-stau-fer** (hɒ'ən'stəʊ'fən), n. a German princely family, founded in the 11th century, which ruled Germany 1138-1208 and 1215-54, and Sicily 1194-1266.

**Hohen-zol-ern** (hɒ'ən'zɔːl'ɜːn; Ger. hɒ'ən'zɔːl'ɜːn), n. a German princely family which attained prominence after 1415 as rulers of Brandenburg, Prussia, which became the kingdom of Prussia in 1701; rulers of the German Empire, 1871-1918, and of Rumania, 1866-1947.

**hoicks** (hoɪks), interj. a cry used to incite hounds in hunting. Also, **hoick** (hoɪk).

**hoi-den** (hoɪ'dən), n., adj. hoyden.

**hoi pol-loi** (hoɪ'pəloɪ/), Greek. the common people; the masses (sometimes preceded pleonastically by *the*).

**hoist** (hoɪst), v.t. 1. to raise or lift, esp. by some mechanical appliance: *to hoist sail*. —n. 2. an apparatus for hoisting, as an elevator. 3. (esp. in England) a freight elevator. 4. act of hoisting; a lift. 5. Naut. a. the vertical length of any sail other than a course. b. the perpendicular height of a sail or flag. [later form of *hoise*; cf. G *hissen*] —hoist/er, n. —Syn. 1. See raise.

**hoi-ty-toi-ty** (hoɪ'tɔɪ'tɔɪ/), interj. 1. an exclamation denoting somewhat contemptuous surprise. —adj. 2. giddy; flighty. 3. assuming; haughty. —n. 4. giddy behavior. 5. haughtiness. Also, **highty-tighty** for 1-3. [redupl. deriv. of obs. *hoit*, v., to romp, riot]

**ho-key-po-key** (hɒ'ki'pɔːki/), n. 1. hocus-pocus; trickery. 2. ice cream sold by street vendors.

**Ho-kiang** (hɒ'ki'jɑŋ/), n. a province in NE China, in Manchuria. 1,604,600 pop. (1946); 47,730 sq. mi.

**Hok-kai-do** (hɒk'ki'do/), n. a large island in N Japan. 3,488,013 pop. (1946); 30,333 sq. mi. Formerly, **Yezo**.

**Ho-ko-da-te** (hɒ'kɔːdɑːtɛ/), n. a seaport in N Japan, on Hokkaido island. 187,367 (1946).

**ho-kum** (hɒ'kʌm), n. Slang. 1. nonsense; bunk. 2. elements of low comedy introduced into a play or the like for the laughs they may bring. 3. sentimental or pathetic matter of an elementary or stereotyped kind introduced into a play or the like. [b. hocus-focus and *bunkum*]

**Ho-ku-sai** (hɒ'kɔːsi/), n. Katsushika (kɑː'tsʊʃɪkɑː), 1760-1849, Japanese painter and illustrator.

**Hol-bein** (hɒl'bɛɪn; Ger. hɒl-/), n. 1. Hans (hɑːns), ("the elder") c1460-1524, German painter. 2. his son, Hans, ("the younger") 1497-1543, German painter.

b., blend of, blended; c., cognate with; d., dialect, dialectal; der., derived from; f., formed from; g., going back to; m., modification of; r., replacing; s., stem of; t., taken from; 7., perhaps. See the full key on inside cover.

**HOLC**, Home Owners' Loan Corporation.

**hold**<sup>1</sup> (hɒld), v., held; hold or (Archaic) holden; hold-ing; n. —v.t. 1. to have or keep in the hand; keep fast; retain: *to be held until called for*. 2. to bear, sustain, or support with the hand, arms, etc., or by any means. 3. to keep in a specified state, relation, etc.: *to hold the enemy in check*. 4. to engage in; preside over; carry on; pursue; observe or celebrate: *to hold a meeting*. 5. to keep back from action; hinder or restrain. 6. to have the ownership or use of; keep as one's own; occupy: *to hold office*. 7. to contain or be capable of containing: *this basket holds two bushels*. 8. to have or keep in the mind; think or believe; entertain: *to hold a belief*. 9. to regard or consider: *to hold a person responsible*. 10. to decide legally. 11. to regard with affection: *to hold one dear*. 12. to keep forcibly, as against an adversary. —v.i. 13. to remain or continue in a specified state, relation, etc.: *to hold still*. 14. to remain fast; adhere; cling: *the anchor holds*. 15. to keep or maintain a grasp on something. 16. to maintain one's position against opposition; continue in resistance. 17. to hold property by some tenure; derive title (fol. by *from* or *of*). 18. to remain attached, faithful, or steadfast: *to hold to one's purpose*. 19. to remain valid; be in force: *the rule does not hold*. 20. to keep going on; proceed. 21. to refrain or forbear (usually in the imperative). 22. Some special verb phrases are: hold or keep back, 1. to restrain or check. 2. to cancel. hold forth, 1. to put forward to view; propose. 2. to harangue. hold in, 1. to restrain, check, or curb. 2. to restrain or contain oneself. hold off, 1. to keep aloof or at a distance. 2. to refrain from action. hold on, 1. to keep fast hold on something. 2. to continue; keep going. 3. Colloq. to stop or halt (chiefly in the imperative). hold one's own, to maintain one's position or condition. hold one's tongue or one's peace, to keep silent; cease or refrain from speaking. hold out, 1. to offer or present. 2. to extend or stretch forth. 3. to keep out; keep back. 4. to continue to endure or resist; last. 5. to refuse to yield or submit. 6. U.S. Slang. to keep back something expected or due. hold over, 1. to keep for future consideration or action; postpone. 2. Music. to prolong (a tone) from one measure to the next. 3. to remain in possession or in office beyond the regular term. hold up, 1. to keep in an erect position. 2. to present to notice; exhibit; display. 3. to stop. 4. to stop by force in order to rob. 5. to support or uphold: *gold holds up its price*. 6. to keep up; maintain one's position, condition, etc.; endure. 7. to stop; cease. hold water, 1. to retain water; not let water run through. 2. to prove sound, tenable, or valid. —n. 23. act of holding fast by a grasp of the hand or by some other physical means; grasp; grip: *take hold*. 24. something to hold a thing by, as a handle; something to grasp for support. 25. a thing that holds fast or supports something else. 26. a controlling force, or dominating influence: *to have a hold on a person*. 27. Music. a pause (symbol). 28. a prison or prison cell. 29. a receptacle for something. 30. Archaic. a fortified place, or stronghold. [ME *holden*, OE *h(e)aldan*, c. G *halten*] —Syn. 6. possess, own. See have. 7. See contain. 9. deem, esteem.

**hold**<sup>2</sup> (hɒld), n. Naut. the interior of a ship below the deck, esp. where the cargo is stowed. [var. of *hole*, c. D *hol* hole, hold]

**hold-all** (hɒld'ɔːl/), n. 1. Chiefly Brit. a portable case or bag for miscellaneous articles, used by soldiers, travelers, etc. 2. a container of odds and ends.

**hold-back** (hɒld'bæk/), n. 1. the iron or strap on the shaft of a vehicle to which the breeching of the harness is attached, enabling the horse to hold back or to back the vehicle. 2. a restraint; check.

**hold-er** (hɒl'dɜːr), n. 1. something to hold a thing with. 2. one who has the ownership, possession, or use of something; an owner; a tenant. 3. Law. one who has the legal right to enforce a negotiable instrument.

**hold-fast** (hɒld'fɑːst/, -fɑːst/), n. something used to hold or secure a thing in place; a catch, hook, or clamp.

**hold-ing** (hɒl'dɪŋ/), n. 1. act of one who or that which holds. 2. land, or a piece of land, held, esp. of a superior. 3. (often pl.) property owned, esp. stocks, bonds, and real estate.

**holding company**, Finance. 1. a company controlling, or able to control, other companies by virtue of stock ownership in these companies. 2. a company which owns stocks or securities of other companies, deriving income from them.

**hold-over** (hɒld'ɔːvɜːr), n. U.S. Colloq. something which remains behind from a former period.

**hold-up** (hɒld'ʌp/), n. U.S. Colloq. 1. a forcible stopping and robbing of a person. 2. anything like this.

**hole** (hɒl), n., c., holed, holing. —n. 1. an opening through anything; an aperture. 2. a hollow place in a solid body or mass; a cavity: *a hole in the ground*. 3. the excavated habitation of an animal; a burrow. 4. a small, dingy, or mean abode. 5. a dungeon. 6. Colloq. an embarrassing position or predicament: *to find oneself in a hole*. 7. U.S. a cove or small harbor. 8. Colloq. a fault or flaw: *to pick holes in a plan*. 9. a deep, still place in a stream: *a swimming hole*. 10. Sports.

a. a small cavity, into which a marble, ball, or the like is to be played. b. a score made by so playing. —*v.t.* 11. to make a hole or holes in. 12. to put or drive into a hole. 13. *Golf*. to drive the ball into (a hole). 14. to bore (a tunnel, etc.). —*v.i.* 15. to make a hole or holes. 16. *Golf*. to drive the ball into a hole (often fol. by *out*). 17. to go into a hole; retire for the winter, as a hibernating animal (usually fol. by *up*). [ME; OE *hol* hole, cave, den, orig. neut. of *hol*, adj., c. G *hohl* hollow] —*hole/less*, *adj.* —*hole/y*, *adj.*

—*Syn.* 1, 2. **HOLE**, **CAVITY**, **EXCAVATION** refer to a hollow place in anything. **HOLE** is the common word for this idea: a *hole in turf*. **CAVITY** is a more formal or scientific term for a hollow within the body or in a substance, whether with or without a passage outward: a *cavity in a tooth*, the *cranial cavity*. An **EXCAVATION** is an extended hole made by digging out or removing material: an *excavation before the construction of a building*.

**hol-i-but** (hól/əbət), *n., pl. -buts*, (*esp. collectively*) —*but*, halbut.

**holi-day** (hól/ədə/), *n.* 1. a day fixed by law or custom on which ordinary business is suspended in commemoration of some event or in honor of some person, etc. 2. any day of exemption from labor. 3. (*often pl.*) *Chiefly Brit.* a period of cessation from work, or of recreation; a vacation. 4. *Archaic*. holy day. —*adj.* 5. pertaining to a festival; joyous: a *holiday mood*. 6. suited only to a holiday. —*v.t.* 7. *Brit.* to vacation: they are *holidaying at the seaside*. [ME; OE *hāligdæg* holy day]

**hol-ily** (hól/əli/), *adv.* 1. piously or devoutly. 2. sacredly. [ME; OE *hāliglice*, *f. hālig* HOLY + *-lice* -ly]

**holi-ness** (hól/əni/s), *n.* 1. state or character of being holy; sanctity. 2. (*cap.*) a title of the Pope, and formerly also of other high ecclesiastical dignitaries, etc. (*prec. by his or your*). [ME *holynesse*, OE *hālignes*] —*Syn.* 1. godliness, saintliness; piety; sacredness.

**hol-ins-hed** (hól/ɪnz'héd/, hól/ɪnshéd/), *n.* **Raphael**, died c1580, British chronicler.

**Holland** (hól/ənd/), *n.* 1. a medieval county and province on the North Sea, now included in North and South Holland provinces of the Netherlands. 2. the Netherlands.

**hol-lan-daise sauce** (hól/əndəz/), a yellow sauce of eggs, lemon juice or vinegar, butter, and seasonings.

**hol-land-er** (hól/əndər/), *n.* a native of the Netherlands; a Dutchman.

**Hollands gin** (hól/əndz/), gin originally made in Holland, distinguished from other gins by the juniper being mixed in the mash.

**hol-ler** (hól/ər/), *Dial.* —*v.t.* 1. to cry aloud; shout. —*v.i.* 2. to shout (something). —*n.* 3. a loud cry of pain, surprise, to attract attention, etc. [*var. of* **hollo**]

**hol-lo** (hól/ə, hól/ə), *interj., n., pl. -los, v., -loed, -loing*. —*interj.* 1. an exclamation to call attention or in answer to one who hails. —*n.* 2. a cry of "hollo"; a shout. 3. a shout of exultation. —*v.i.* 4. to cry "hollo"; shout. —*v.t.* 5. to shout (something). 6. to cry "hollo" to. Also, *hallo*, *halloa*, *hol/la*, *hol/loa*, *hullo*.

**hol-low** (hól/ə), *adj.* 1. having a hole or cavity within; not solid; empty: a *hollow ball*. 2. having a depression or concavity: a *hollow surface*. 3. sunken, as the cheeks or eyes. 4. (of sound) not resonant; dull, muffled, or deep: a *hollow voice*. 5. without substantial or real worth; vain: a *hollow victory*. 6. insincere or false: *hollow compliments*. 7. hungry. —*n.* 8. an empty space within anything; a hole; a depression or cavity. 9. a valley: *Sleepy Hollow*. —*v.t.* 10. to make hollow; form by making hollow (often fol. by *out*). —*v.i.* 11. to become hollow. —*adv.* 12. in a hollow manner. 13. *Colloq.* utterly (often *prec. by all* for emphasis): to *beat someone all hollow*. [ME *hol(o)u*, *holwe* (e), *n., adj.*, OE *hohl* hollow (place)] —*hol/low-ly*, *adv.* —*hol/low-ness*, *n.*

**hol-low-eyed** (hól/ə'id/), *adj.* having sunken eyes.

**hol-low-ware** (hól/əwər/), *n.* silver dishes, as serving dishes, tea service, etc., having some depth (distinguished from *flatware*).

**hol-ly** (hól/ə), *n., pl. -lies*. 1. any of the trees or shrubs of the genus *Ilex*, esp. those species having glossy, spiny-edged leaves and small, whitish flowers succeeded by bright-red berries. 2. the foliage and berries, much used for decoration, esp. during the Christmas season. [ME *holig*, *holi*, OE *holegn* (with loss of -n); akin to D and G *hulst*, *F houz*]

**hol-ly-hock** (hól/ə'hök/, -hök/), *n.* 1. a tall malvaceous plant, common in cultivation, *Althaea rosea*, having showy flowers of various colors. 2. the flower itself. [ME *holihoc*, *f. holi* *holr* + *hoc* mallow, OE *hocc*]

**holly oak**, the *holm oak*.

**Holly-wood** (hól/ə'wóðd/), *n.* a part of Los Angeles, California: center of American motion-picture industry.

**holm** (hóm), *n.* *Chiefly Brit. Dial* and *Scot.* 1. a low, flat tract of land beside a river or stream. 2. a small island, esp. one in a river or lake. [ME and OE, *t. Scand.*; cf. *Icel.* *holmr* islet]

**holm** (hóm), *n.* 1. the *holm oak*. 2. *Brit. Dial.* the *holly*. [ME; dissimilated *var. of* *holn*, OE *hollen* *holly* (dental + dental became dental + labial)]

**Hol-man-Hunt** (hól/mán'húnt/), *n.* William, 1827–1910, British painter.

**Holmes** (hómz), *n.* 1. John Haynes, born 1879, U.S. clergyman. 2. Oliver Wendell, 1809–94, U.S. author and physician. 3. his son, Oliver Wendell, 1841–1935.

associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, 1902–32. 4. Sherlock, a detective in many mystery stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

**hol-mic** (hól/mík), *adj.* *Chem.* of or containing holmium (Ho<sup>3+</sup>).

**hol-mi-um** (hól/míəm), *n.* *Chem.* a rare-earth element found in gadolinite. *Symbol.* Ho; *at. wt.*: 164.94; *at. no.*: 67. [NL; named after Stockholm, in Sweden]

**holm oak**, an evergreen oak, *Quercus ilex*, of southern Europe, with foliage resembling that of the *holly*.

**holo-**, a word element meaning "whole" or "entire," as in *holocaust*. [*t. Gk.*, comb. form of *hólos*]

**hol-o-blas-tic** (hól/əblás/tík), *adj.* *Embryol.* (of eggs which undergo total cleavage) wholly germinal (opposed to *meroblastic*).

**hol-o-caine** (hól/əkán/), *n.* 1. *Chem.* a colorless crystalline basic compound, C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, used as a local anesthetic. 2. *Pharm.* a local anesthetic resembling cocaine in its action, used chiefly for the eye.

**hol-o-caust** (hól/əkóst/), *n.* 1. great or wholesale destruction of life, esp. by fire. 2. an offering or sacrifice devoted wholly to burning; a burnt offering. [*t. LL.*: *s. holocaustum*, *t. Gk.*: *m. holókauston* a burnt offering, prop. neut. of *holókaustos* burnt whole] —*hol/o-caus/tic*, *adj.*

**hol-o-cene** (hól/əsen/), *adj.* *Geol.* designating or pertaining to the Human or Recent era. [*f. HOLO-* + *-CENE*]

**Hol-o-fer-nes** (hól/əfúr/néz/), *n.* *Bible.* a general of Nebuchadnezzar killed by Judith in the apocryphal Book of Judith.

**hol-o-graph** (hól/əgráf/, -gráf/), *adj.* 1. wholly written by the person in whose name it appears: a *holograph letter*. —*n.* 2. a holograph writing. [*t. LL.*: *s. holographus*, *t. Gk.*: *m. hológraphos*]

**hol-o-graph-ic** (hól/əgráf/ík), *adj.* *Law.* (of wills) totally in the handwriting of the testator and therefore not requiring attestation of witnesses.

**hol-o-he-dral** (hól/əhéd/rəl), *adj.* (of a crystal) having all the planes or faces required by the maximum symmetry of the system to which it belongs. [*f. HOLO-* + *s. Gk. hédra* seat, base + *-AL*]

**hol-o-phot** (hól/əfót/), *n.* an apparatus by which practically all the light from a lighthouse lamp, etc., is made available for illumination by reflection or refraction or both. [*f. HOLO-* + *m.s. Gk. phōs* light] —*hol/o-pho/tal*, *adj.*

**hol-o-phras-tic** (hól/əfrás/tík), *adj.* expressing a whole phrase or sentence in a single word. [*f. HOLO-* + *m.s. Gk. phrastikós* suited for expressing]

**hol-o-thu-ri-an** (hól/əthúor/yan), *n.* any of the *Holothuridae*. [*f. s. NL Holothuria* genus name (*t. L, t. Gk.*: *m. holothuria*) + *-AN*]

**Hol-o-thu-roi-de-a** (hól/əthóor/oi/ya), *n.pl.* a class of echinoderms known as sea cucumbers, having a long leathery body and tentacles around the anterior end.

**holp** (hól/p), *v.* *Archaic.* pt. of *help*.

**hol-pen** (hól/pən), *v.* *Archaic.* pp. of *help*.

**Hol-stein** (hól/stín, -stén for 1; hól/stín; *Ger.* hól/shín for 2), *n.* 1. one of a breed of large, black-and-white dairy cattle, originating in North Holland and Friesland. Also, **Hol-stein-Frie-sian** (hól/stín frí/zhan, -stén-), 2. a district in N Germany at the base of the peninsula of Jutland; a former duchy. See **Schleswig-Holstein**.



Holstein, *Bos taurus*  
(4 ft. high at the shoulder)

**hol-ster** (hól/stər), *n.* a leather case for a pistol, attached to a belt or a saddle. [*var. of* *hulster*, *t. Sw.*: *m. hólster*, whence also *D hólster*; akin to OE *heolstr* cover] —*hol/stered*, *adj.*

**holt** (hólt), *n.* *Chiefly Poetic.* 1. a wood or grove. 2. a wooded hill. [ME *holte*, OE *holt*, c. G *holz* wood]

**ho-lus-bo-lus** (hól/əsból/əs), *adv.* *Colloq.* all at once.

**ho-ly** (hól/ə), *adj., -lier, -liest, n., pl. -lies*. —*adj.* 1. specially recognized as or declared sacred by religious use or authority; consecrated: a *holy day*. 2. dedicated or devoted to the service of God, the church, or religion: a *holy man*. 3. saintly or godly; pious or devout. 4. of religious purity, exaltation, solemnity, etc.: a *holy love*. 5. entitled to worship or profound religious reverence because of divine character or origin, or connection with God or divinity: *holy Bible*. 6. religious: *holy rites*. —*n.* 7. a place of worship; a sacred place. 8. that which is holy. [ME *holi*, OE *hālig*, *hāleg*, c. D and G *heilig*, akin to *HALE*<sup>2</sup> and *HEAL*]

—*Syn.* 1. blessed. **HOLY**, **SACRED**, **CONSECRATED**, **HALLOWED** imply possession of a sanctity which is the object of religious veneration. **HOLY** refers to the divine, that which has its sanctity directly from God or as connected with Him: *Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy*. That which is sacred, while sometimes accepted as entitled to religious veneration, may have its sanctity from human authority: a *sacred oath*. That which is consecrated is specially or formally dedicated to some religious use: a *life consecrated to service*. That which is hallowed has been made holy by being worshiped: a *hallowed shrine*.

**Holy Alliance**, a league formed by the principal sovereigns of Europe (without the Pope and Sultan) in 1815 after the fall of Napoleon, and the professed

act, able, dare, art; ébb, equal; Yf, ice; hót, over, order, oil, bók, öze, out; üp, use, urge; a = a in alone; ch, chief; g, give; ng, ring; sh, shoe; th, thin; th, that; zh, vision. See the full key on inside cover.

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